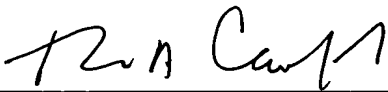


III. REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 13-18 will be pending, of which claims 13 and 16 are independent. Claims 1-12 are canceled. Claims 14, 15, 17, and 18 are amended to better correspond to U.S. patent practice and to correct minor typographical errors. The specification is amended to incorporate the updated priority information. The applicants believe that no new matter has been added as a result of these amendments and respectfully request consideration and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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